

teach coating a rigid metal sheet and 2) they do not disclose or suggest a first polymer layer free of fibers and particulate, a second polymer layer containing particulate with a thermal spray layer coating the second polymer layer, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2 and 4 to 10 are not obvious over Hatch et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The action rejects claims 1 to 12 and 14 to 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch et al.'s U.S. Pat. No. 5,840,386 in view of Hess et al., U.S. Pat. No. 3,698,053. Hess et al. disclose a carbon fiber reinforced polymer. And it does not disclose or suggest a first polymer layer free of fibers and particulate and a second polymer layer containing particulate with a thermal spray layer coating the second polymer layer. As discussed above, Hatch et al. also does not disclose applicants' claimed multi-layered polymer for receiving a thermal spray coating. Therefore, since Hatch et al. and Hess et al. do not disclose or suggest a first polymer layer free of fibers and particulate and a second polymer layer containing particulate with a thermal spray layer coating the second polymer layer, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 to 12 and 14 to 16 are not obvious over Hatch et al. in view of Hess et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

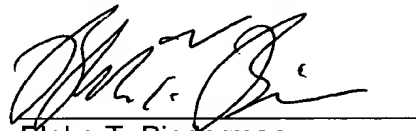
only used to show C fibers

The action rejects claims 1, 3, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch et al.'s U.S. Pat. No. 5,840,386 in view of Hess et al., U.S. Pat. No. 3,698,053 and in further view of Fujita et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,296,582. Fujita et al. disclose a bisphenol F-type epichlorohydrin and diethylenetriamine resin. But Fujita et al. do not disclose using this resin to bond a particulate-containing polymer to a fiber reinforced composite. This resin has excellent properties for bonding a particulate-containing polymer to a fiber-containing polymer and it withstands the indirect thermal stresses induced from thermal spraying a coating on to the particulate-containing polymer layer. Thus, since Fujita et al. fail to disclose using a bisphenol F-type epichlorohydrin and diethylenetriamine resin for bonding a particulate-containing polymer to a fiber-containing polymer or withstanding indirect thermal stresses from thermal spraying, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3, 11 and 13 are patentable over Hatch et al. in view of Hess et al. and in further view of Fujita et al.

Intended use

In summary, applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in proper form for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blake T. Biederman', is written over a horizontal line.

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